

HOUSE BILL 53

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2lr1215

By: **Delegates Luedtke, Cullison, Frick, Hixson, Howard, Kaiser, A. Kelly, A. Miller, Mizeur, Reznik, Ross, Summers, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2012

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Community Colleges – Tuition Waiver for Disabled**
3 **Individuals**

4 FOR the purpose of altering a certain requirement for obtaining an exemption from
5 the payment of tuition at community colleges for certain disabled individuals
6 who are enrolled in classes for certain continuing education instruction; and
7 generally relating to tuition waivers for disabled individuals at community
8 colleges.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Education
11 Section 16–106(c)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 16–106.

18 (c) (1) Any resident of this State who is out of the work force by reason of
19 total and permanent disability who enrolls at a community college in a class that has
20 at least 10 regularly enrolled students:

21 (i) Is exempt from payment of tuition for up to 6 credits per
22 semester or up to 12 credits per semester if the individual is enrolled in classes [as]:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 1. **AS** part of a degree or a certificate program designed
2 to lead to employment; **OR**

3 2. **FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION INSTRUCTION**
4 **DESIGNED TO LEAD TO EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING LIFE SKILLS INSTRUCTION;**
5 and

6 (ii) Shall be counted in computing full-time equivalent
7 enrollment under § 16-305 of this title.

8 (2) In order to receive this exemption, an individual who meets the
9 requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection shall provide the community college
10 with certification from the Social Security Administration, the Railroad Retirement
11 Board, or in the case of a former federal employee, from the individual's federal
12 retirement or pension authority of the individual's:

13 (i) Total and permanent disability; and

14 (ii) Receipt of disability or retirement benefits based on a
15 standard that is at least as stringent as the standard applied by the Social Security
16 Act.

17 (3) Certification from the Social Security Administration of an
18 individual's receipt of disability or retirement benefits under either Title II or Title
19 XVI of the federal Social Security Act shall satisfy the requirement in paragraph (2)(ii)
20 of this subsection.

21 (4) (i) In order to receive this exemption, an individual who meets
22 the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection and is enrolled in a degree or
23 certificate program shall submit a timely application for any State or federal student
24 financial aid, other than a student loan, for which the student may qualify.

25 (ii) Any student financial aid, other than a student loan,
26 received by the student shall be applied first to pay the student's tuition.

27 (iii) Under this exemption, the waiver shall apply to the
28 difference, if any, between the charge for tuition and the financial aid award, not
29 including a student loan, that the student receives.

30 (iv) On request, the community college shall assist any
31 individual required to submit an application for State or federal student financial aid
32 under this paragraph.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
34 October 1, 2012.